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For Immediate Release

March 14, 2006

Contact: Jamie Callahan

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Sen. Allen reading to Lakeland Elementary School students

Who: Sen. Jason Allen, R-Traverse City.

What: Sen. Allen will be reading to students at Lakeland Elementary School as part of Reading Month.

When: Friday, March 17
2:45 to 3:45 p.m.

Where: Lakeland Elementary School
616 Buckley Ave.
Elk Rapids.

Briefing: In honor of Reading Month, Sen. Allen will be reading “Lighthouse Fireflies” to elementary schools throughout March. The book tells the story of a young boy who realizes the true meaning of friendship and self-sacrifice through his flickering firefly friends. The tale is written by Anne Margaret Lewis and illustrated by Mary Frey, both northern Michigan residents.

Every year, school children throughout Michigan celebrate “March is Reading Month.” The purpose is to highlight reading as a fun activity that children and parents can do together, while promoting literacy.

According to the U.S. Department of Education, approximately 40 percent of students across the nation cannot read at a basic level. Learning to read and the promotion of reading needs to start at an early age and continue throughout life.

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